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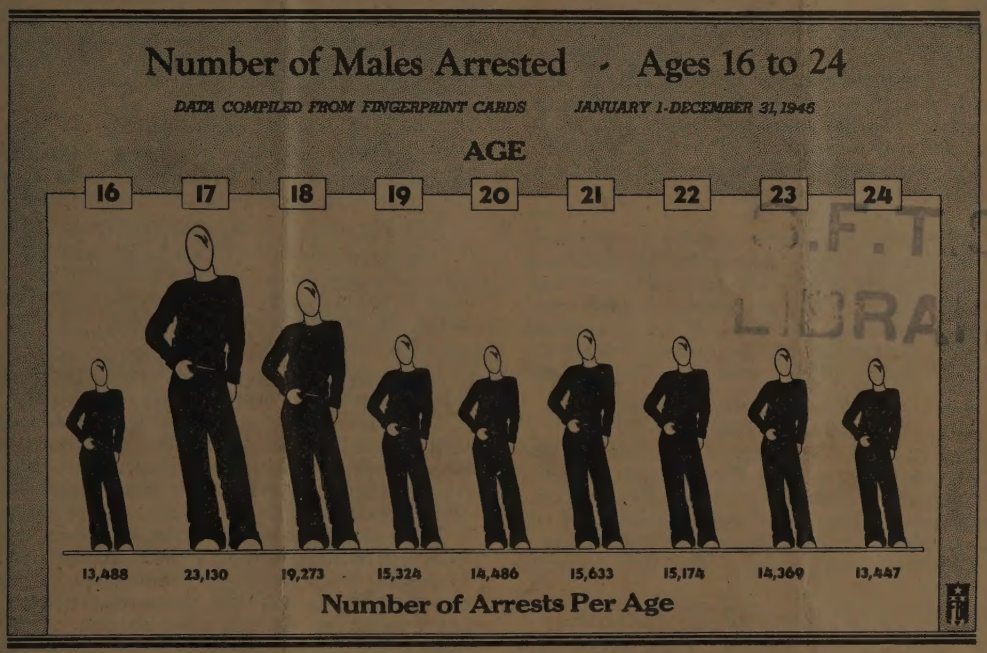
CRIME, JUVENILE CRIME: CAUSES AND CURE

By J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

(Extracts from Recent Addresses by Mr. Hoover and from Uniform Crime Reports of FBI for 1945 and First Half of 1946.)



A grand total of 1,565,541 major crimes was registered for the nation in 1945 including 11,234 felonious homicides, 11,537 rapes, and 59,807 other aggravated assaults, 54,279 robberies, 241,491 automobile thefts, 321,672 burglaries, and 865,521 larcenies.

Increase Over 1944

The crime record for 1945 shows a 12.4 per cent increase over 1944 according to the reports of nearly 2,000 cities representing an urban population of over 65 million. Each offense class was on the rise with robberies up 23.6 per cent; auto thefts, 18.7 per cent; burglaries, 17 per cent; negligent manslaughters, 16.2 per cent; and murders, 10.1 per cent. Aggravated assaults rose 8.7 per cent and an 8.6 per cent rise was recorded for larcenies. Offenses of rape continued up in 1945 with an increase of 5.7 per cent. The increases were more pronounced and widespread throughout the nation than have been recorded in many years.

In the rural communities the over-all increase for 1945 over 1944 amounted to 8.5 per cent as compared with a 12.4 per cent rise in the cities.

Increase 1946, to July, Over 1945

The widespread increase in crime noted last year continued into 1946 with a 13.0 per cent rise recorded during the first six-month period in urban areas.

A 19.6 per cent increase in crime was registered in the rural areas during the first half of 1946 compared with a similar period of the preceding year.

Youth Crime from Fingerprint Records

During the 1945 calendar year the FBI examined 543,852 arrest records, as evidenced by fingerprint cards, in order to obtain data concerning the age, sex, race and previous criminal history of the persons represented. The compilation has been limited to instances of arrests for violations of state laws and municipal ordinances.

Nearly 40 per cent of the records examined during 1945 represented arrests for major violations. Fingerprint cards representing arrests of males numbered 459,708; females, 84,144.

Under 21 Years of Age

During 1945, males and females under 21 years of age arrested and fingerprinted numbered 113,996, constituting 21 per cent of the total arrests. In addition there were 79,403 (14.6 per cent) between the ages of 21 and 24, making a total of 193,399 (35.6 per cent) less than 25 years old. It should be remembered that the number of arrest records is doubtless incomplete in the lower age groups because of the practice of some jurisdictions not to fingerprint youthful offenders.

Largest Number of Arrests—Age 17

For males and females combined, the figures for the groups in which the largest numbers of arrests occurred during 1945 are as follows:

Age	Number of Arrests
17	25,656
18	24,360
21	21,446
22	21,044
19	20,769

Arrests of males under 18 increased 9.2 per cent, while the increase for males under 21 was 10.1 per cent.

The total arrests for girls under 21 years of age decreased 10.6 per cent during 1945. Compared with 1941 female arrests under 21 more than doubled (109.3 per cent) in 1945.

Passing Parade of Crime

View with me, if you will, the passing parade of crime. It presents a sordid spectacle. Out of each 1,000 marching in this endless parade, 521 have marched before to a prior arrest, and 210 are under 21 years of age. More persons aged 17 are arrested than in any other age group.

Of each 1,000 murderers, 140 are under 21 years old
Of each 1,000 robbers, 360 are under 21 years old
Of each 1,000 burglars, 510 are under 21 years old
Of each 1,000 thieves, 340 are under 21 years old
Of each 1,000 arsonists, 250 are under 21 years old
Of each 1,000 car thieves, 630 are under 21 years old
Of each 1,000 rapists, 430 are under 21 years old

Crime Like a Tidal Wave is Gathering Momentum Throughout the Nation

I am not easily shocked or alarmed. But today, like thousands of others, I am both shocked and alarmed. The arrests of teen-age boys and girls all over our country are staggering. Some of the crimes youngsters are committing are almost unspeakable. Prostitution, murder, rape. These are ugly words. But it is an ugly situation.

CAUSES OF UPSWING IN CRIME

I am not blaming the youngsters. I am trying very definitely to do exactly the opposite—to put the blame where it belongs, on my own generation, which has failed in its responsibility to its children.

War Only Accentuated it

The situation did not come upon us over night. It has been developing for years. The wartime spirit of abandon only aggravated it. It is deep rooted. Something has happened to the moral stamina of America.

Lack of Character

When you reduce the whole probelm to fundamentals, the answer is simple: people for the most part commit crime because they do not have the moral stamina and the traits of character to withstand it.

Irreligion

There are over sixty million of our fellow citizens who profess no religion and many of these no belief in God. What will happpen to the moral structure of our democracy if this condition continues?

Failures of Parents

In the background of each of these youths lies a story of shocking neglect. Boys and girls are being deprived of the care and guidance necessary to the proper formation of their characters. This lawlessness had its roots in every instance in broken homes, in homes where mothers and fathers because of their neglect, misunderstanding or irresponsibility, had failed in their primary obligation. More often than not, God was unknown or, more important, was unwelcome in these homes.

Failure of Schools

To bring about this horrible picture, somewhere the institutions of our civilization have failed. I include our system of education.

The impact of a philosophy of materialism has far too often converted schools from institutions of learning and knowledge to factories for the dissemination of information.

Failure of Churches

One of the principal reasons for the demoralizing and shocking increase of crime in the past two decades has been the ineffectiveness of religious and moral influences in our individual communities. History in the past 2,000 years has demonstrated that the forces that make men Christian, make them good citizens. Let me remind you that as faith in the Supreme Being diminishes, so does character weaken—and so does the courage so vital to carry on the battle against the obstacles which today may be found on every side.

CURE

There is no possibility of wiping out crime by trying to reform criminals. The time to strike at it is when the youth is ready to be moulded into an adult.

FBI and Police Necessary, But Only Temporary

The police and the FBI can apprehend the bank robbers, kidnappers, burglars and hardened criminals. Such relief is urgently needed but the treatment is only temporary in solving the crime problem.

The Home

The home is the most important factor in the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

In the home teach respect for God and His laws, and then respect for man and his law will undoubtedly follow. Take that which is divine out of the home and the school and you wreck that upon which all order and all law, moral and human, rest.

Parental responsibility is no longer in style. This leads me to suggest that a new approach is necessary. In the past when a youngster committed a crime he alone was held responsible and went to a reform school, a foster home, or was put on probation. The time has come when parents should be held responsible not only to their own conscience but to society. Juvenile delinquency does not occur until adults first become delinquent.

The School

Education against crime should be a primary factor in our common schools. It should be listed as more important than reading, writing, or arithmetic. Our schools have failed to teach inexerobly and faithfully a proper observance of law and moral goverance.

What we need is an inculcation of the immortal lessons of the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount in the hearts and minds of all Americans. This is the surest antidote to stem the rising tide of lawlessness.

The Church

The body must be built up so that it can resist local infections. That is why long ago, I pinned my hope for the solution of the problem of lawlessness to the improvement of the home, the greater effectiveness of the school, and extending the sphere of the influence of the church.

The Principles of the Founding Fathers

There is a challenging word in the Scriptures that is pertinent to our life as a people today. It is a solemn admonition that directs us to consider the basic principles and ideals upon which our government is founded:

"Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set."

WHEN CHILDREN LISTEN

By VERA E. SMITH,
Fifth Grade Teacher, Collicot School, Milton, Mass.

Never before in my thirty years of teaching had I faced such a dull-looking and unenthusiastic class of fifth-grade boys and girls. Not only were many of them retarded one year or more in their schoolwork, but very soon there were evidences of dishonesty. I asked myself, "Whatever can I do with such a class?"

Eight months later all traces of unreliability had disappeared and the children's reading ability had improved on an average of fourteen months, six months beyond normal, one boy improving two years and two months. The greatest improvement was in the slower half of the class, but there was striking growth seen in several of the brightest pupils. The method used did not create brain power, but released what was in each child and made him use what ability be had. In the children's own words, "We are an entirely different class from what we were last fall. Our minds are more alert now, and we are doing much better work in all of our lessons.

At the beginning of the year, other teachers in the building had made remarks to me about this peculiar-looking class. "Whatever will you do with them?" I was asked. By Christmas time, these same teachers said they never before had seen so much change in the faces of my children. This class, transformed from inattentive, listless children to an alert and wide-awake group of boys and girls, was promoted at the end of the year well prepared for sixth grade work. What happened to make such a definite change in these boys and girls? Why had they improved so much in their schoolwork and social relations?

Early in the year I realized that such a class as this must be taught in an entirely different way from my usual procedure. There had come to my attention a child's book, "Little Pitchers with Big Ears," a story written by a class of boys and girls in Atlanta, Ga., which gave me an idea of what I might do with my class.

So one morning I said to my boys and girls: "Miracles of science are all about us, but they have not given us peace and happiness. Men and nations everywhere need a change of heart. We listen to the radio and hear voices that come to us from far and near. We recognize them. This seems wonderful to us. God is broadcasting all the time; any boy or girl can pick up a message from Him if he will put his receiving set in order. The lesson the world most needs is the art of listening. George Washington listened at a time of conflict, and gave a nation freedom. Abraham Lincoln listened at a time of crisis, and preserved a nation's unity. I heard of a fifth grade in a distant city which learned to listen and it made a great difference in everything they did. We might learn; I should like to begin this morning and have a 'Listening Period'." We all bowed our heads reverently and were absolutely quiet. After a few minutes, I asked the children if they wanted to say anything. There was no response.

Two days later, we tried again. In our opening exercises, I said to the class, "When you want a program on the radio from a certain station, what do you do?"

They responded, "Turn to the number of the station broadcasting that program."

I continued, "In other words, you have to tune in your radio to receive that program. God is broadcasting all the time, and if we tune in to Him we shall hear what He says. This morning will you each one turn on your radio and listen to God broadcasting? Everyone ready now to turn on your radio?"

We bowed our heads, closed our eyes. Before I closed mine, I saw one child turn his nose, another his ear, and another twist his lips as though turning on a real radio. This action was serious and not in the slightest sense of sport. We were very quiet.

When I asked, "Who wishes to tell us what he heard?" many hands were raised.

One little boy who had been doing very poor work volunteered, "God told me to work harder and get better marks." Another who was in the giggling stage said, "He told me not to be so silly about little things." A little girl said eagerly, "He told me to be more obedient to my parents and to help more."

After another listening time, many hands were raised to share what had come and I said, "Instead of telling now, we will take the last ten minutes this noon. Then we will see how obedient we have been."

That noon one boy who had not been honest in correcting his papers said, "God told me not to cheat when I correct my arithmetic papers, and I was honest this morning." A girl who had great difficulty in controlling her talking said, "He told me that I must not whisper so much, and this morning I have tried to control my tongue." A boy who had made many mistakes in his arithmetic papers said, "God told me to get both my proof papers right and I did."

One day in order to branch out and not to confine their thinking to school work, and to learn of their relationships with each other at the recess period, I said to them, "We shall have our listening period this morning just before we go out to recess, and learn how we should play together."

The captain of the girl's team said, "God told me that as I am captain of my team, it is up to me to play fair, and to see to it that everyone on my team plays fair." Mary said, "He told me that when the ball hits me, I am out even if no one else sees it."

Wondering what influence this experience was having on their home conduct, I asked them for some discussion. Little Patsy, with joy beaming from her face, volunteered, "Last night my mother asked me to peel the potatoes. She knows that I do not like to do this; she always has to tell me several times to do it. But last night I did it the first time and was cheerful about it. I heard my mother in the next room say to my father, "Surely there is a change in Patsy!"

After several months of daily listening, I asked the children what their families thought of what we were doing. Tom, eager to report, said, "My mother thinks that listening to God is a very good idea. She thinks she will try it." Another response was, "My mother is glad you are teaching us to listen to God." Anne reported, "Before we began to listen to God, my mother was cross with us. She had so much work to do with so many children. Now she is happy. She smiles at us and plays with us."

Toward the end of the year, as a class project, the pupils wrote a summary of what listening had done for them. They recognized what a slow class they had been when they entered the fifth grade, and what a change had come in them both in their work at school and at home, and in all of their relations with each other. Now they were doing work of fifth grade standard.

So eager were they to let the other children in the school know what they were doing that they gave a play, "The Thinking Schoolroom," based on these experiences, and presented it to the entire school of some 500 pupils. In the audience were many parents and the school superintendent, all of whom made enthusiastic comments showing their interest and approval.

Near the end of the year each pupil wrote what this experience had done for him individually. One boy expressed it thus: "Listening to God has made a change in me at school, at home, and in my play. When I am at home I do things more cheerfully when I used to whine and quarrel. At school

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NOTABLE VICTORY FOR RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The recent decision of the Supreme Court of Illinois in upholding the ruling of the Circuit Court of Champaign County of that State in refusing to stop the conducting of classes of religious education in the public schools of Champaign, Ill., was a notable victory for the Bible and moral and religious training in the public schools. It is all the more notable because of a decision of the Supreme Court of this State rendered 36 years ago, which has been widely used against the Bible and religion in our public schools. For a full account of this case, taken into court by Mrs. Vashti McCollum, a professed atheist, the School Board Attorney's brief, and the opinion of the County Court, see the March, 1946 issue of *The Christian Statesman.*

SECURE EXTRA COPIES

There is no higher authority in this country on crime, juvenile delinquency, their causes and cure than J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States Government. His figures on crime, and extracts from his messages on this subject, contained in this issue of *The Christian Statesman* under the above title, should be read and pondered by every American concerned about the future of our democracy.

This rapid increase in crime, especially among American youth, cannot be allowed to continue long if this nation is to survive. To make the facts and suggestions of the article available for wide distribution we are having it reproduced. Copies can be secured from The National Reform Association, 209 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh 22, Pa., at the following rates: Up to 100 copies, 2 cents per copy; 100 copies and above, $1.50 per hundred.

BEAVER COUNTY AMERICAN LEGION LIQUOR LICENSE OPPOSED

In Beaver County, Pa. (population 157,000) there are 367 places licensed to sell intoxicating liquors at retail. Before Prohibition the highest number of such places was 42.

Recently the American Legion Post of Beaver Falls, Beaver County, applied to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board for a club liquor license. The Legion building is located within 180 feet of the Senior High School of the city, and within a square's distance of three other public school buildings. The Beaver County Branch of The National Reform Association took the lead in opposing the granting of this license. Petitions were prepared opposing it and furnished the churches of the city for signing and forwarding to the Liquor Control Board. The Ministerial Association of the city passed resolutions against it which were presented to the local School Board and forwarded to the Liquor Control Board. Geneva College also opposed it. Unfortunately only three of the seven members of the School Board voted to protest the granting of the license. A hearing on the application was held before the examiner of the Liquor Control Board in Pittsburgh.

The Liquor Control Board refused to grant the license for the following five reasons:

1. The Act of June 24, 1939, P.L. 806, provides for a quota of 18 licenses for the retail sale of liquor and malt beverages in Beaver Falls, Beaver County, and there are at the present time 28 such licenses in effect which are of the type counted against the said quota. Accordingly, the quota of retail licenses for the said municipality is exceeded.

2. Beaver Falls, Beaver County, is amply provided with licensed places.

3. The premises proposed to be licensed are within 300 feet of a school and a school playground.

4. Numerous protests and petitions, signed by many residents of the community, have been filed with the Board opposing the granting of a license to this organization in these premises.

5. A number of the protestants appeared at the hearing and testified that they are strongly opposed to the granting of a license to the applicant in the premises and that they object to the granting of a license within 300 feet of a public school.

Under the Pennsylvania Liquor laws, the applicant for a license, when refused a license by the Liquor Control Board, has the right of appeal to the County Court to overrule the Board and grant the license. This was done. A hearing on the case was held before Judge Robert E. McCreary of the Beaver County Court on September 10. Some 35 to 40 ministers of the County attended the hearing. Every seat in the courtroom was taken, for the most part by those opposed to the granting of the license. On the witness stand opposing the license were two members of the School Board and one teacher in the city schools, a G.I., the President of Geneva College, the County Superintendent of Schools, and representatives of the following organizations which had adopted resolutions against it: the Beaver Falls Ministerial Association; the Rochester Ministerial Association; the Geneva College Faculty; the Beaver County Sabbath School Association; the Beaver County Branch of The National Reform Association.

At this writing Judge McCreary has not given his decision. To grant the license, he will have to knock down every one of the five hurdles the Liquor Board has set up.

FAITH AND WORLD PEACE

The obstacles in the way of achieving world peace seem almost insurmountable. Nevertheless, this is no time for discouragement, for relaxation of our efforts for peace, for giving up and saying we might as well prepare for another world war. Instead, this is the time for a renewal of our faith in world peace—for redoubling our efforts to bring it about, and for stressing the need of patience in all our endeavors to achieve it.

In the long struggle to weld together the 13 separate colonies into one nation, in the Constitutional Convention which finally agreed upon a national constitution to be submitted to the people of our country for their adoption there were times when failure seemed inevitable. Many lost their faith and courage and quit. Not so with Washington, Jefferson, Madison and others of our leaders. They had the faith that overcomes, that moves mountains. They moved them and gave us America. Like faith, and like patience is needed by the leaders of today in their struggle to achieve world peace. This holds also for the people. They must not become discouraged, lose interest and give up efforts for peace. Above all, this holds true of Christian leaders and Christians generally. Of their Great Leader, the Prince of Peace, the Scripture declares, "He shall not fail nor be discouraged, 'til He has set justice in the earth."

Christ has a program for world peace. He is the foundation on which to build the New World Order. His principles are to be applied internationally in this New Order. With faith and courage let the church proclaim and apply His program.

BIBLE STUDY COURSES INTRODUCED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(Report of E. M. Hertzler, M.A., Field Representative, Department Religious Education in Public Schools, National Reform Association, for period from September 1, 1945 to August 31, 1946.)

During the period covered in this report your fieldman has visited 89 cities and villages in Ohio, 16 cities in Indiana, 4 cities in Michigan, and 4 cities and boroughs in Pennsylvania, making 113 cities and villages visited in the interest of starting programs of Weekday Religious Education.

With few exceptions the superintendents of schools in all these cities have been quite receptive to the proposed program for Weekday Religious Education. Many of the superintendents of schools have heartily endorsed the kind of program for such instruction developed by the National Reform Association, and have indicated their full cooperation with the churches of their respective constituencies provided the churches organize themselves into a cooperative group to support a Religious Education program in the schools.

Bible Study Courses Introduced Into Schools of 17 Cities, Rural Communities, or Counties

Your fieldman has contacted Ministerial Associations and leading clergymen in every city where the superintendents of schools indicated a cooperative attitude. In most cities there is evident an awakening sense of the need for religious education in the public schools and that the churches have a responsibility in providing such instruction, but in many cities the clergymen, and the churches they represent, are not yet sufficiently conscious of the need for such cooperative work to take the necessary steps in organizing for a interdenominational program of Weekday Religious Education. Clergymen are frequently very hesitant about assuming any financial responsibility beyond the denominational requirements of their congregations. However, in 11 cities definite programs for Weekday Religious Education have been organized during the year which began with the opening of schools in September. In addition, six rural communities, comprising a county or part of a county, have definitely organized and will start programs of Weekday Religious Education with the beginning of their school terms in September. A tabulated list of these city and county school systems, showing the number of teachers employed, the grades in which classes in religion will be offered, and the approximate enrollment of the grades, is attached to this report.

Public School Systems in which programs of Weekday Religious Education classes are being started at the beginning of this school year (1946-47) as the result of the work of the National Reform Association fieldman from September 1, 1945 to August 31, 1946.

Name of City and its Population	Number of Teachers Employed	School Grades in Which Such Courses Given	Approximate Enrolled in Courses
Ashland, Ohio 12,453	1	3, 4, 5, 6	800
Blissfield, Mich. 8,650	1	3, 4, 5, 6	650
Huntington, Ind. 13,903	1	3, 4, 5, 6	850
Indianapolis, Ind.....386,972	4	4, 5*	8,500
LaPorte, Ind. 16,180	1	3, 4, 5, 6	900
Mt. Gilead, Ohio..... 3,286 (Including Rural Consolidated School)	1	3, 4, 5, 6	460
Nappanee, Ind. ..... 3,028 (Including Rural Children brought in by buses).	1	3, 4, 5, 6	375
Springfield, Ohio 70,662	2	3	1,400
Seymour, Ind. 8,652	1	3, 4, 5, 6	750
Union City, Ind. ..... 3,535 (Including some Rural Children brought in by bus).	1	3, 4, 5, 6	350
Urbana, Ohio 8,335	1	3, 4, 5, 6	640
COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS			
Greenville, Ohio, and Darke County, including 10 Consolidated Schools of the County	2	4, 5, 6	800
London, Ohio, and Madison County, including these rural consolidated schools: Madison Rural, Plain City, Fairfield, Lily Chapel, W. Jefferson....	1	4, 5	550
McConnelsville, Ohio and Morgan County, including these Rural Consolidated Scholos: Deavertown, Malta, Stockport, Chesterhill, Reinersville, Bristol and Ringold.....	2	3, 4, 5	950
Marysville, Ohio, and Union County, including these rural Consolidated Schools: Richwood, Leesburg-Magnetic, Jackson and Liberty Townships..	1	3, 4, 5, 6	650
Creston, Ohio and Wayne County, including part of the Consolidated Schools of Applecreek.....	1	4, 5, 6	470
New Baltimore, Ohio, and part of Wood County, including Deshler, Hoytsville, Rudolph, Milton Center.....	1	3, 4, 5, 6	550
	23		19,645

*The Indianapolis Council of Religious Education does not expect to be able to cover all fourth and fifth grade classes throughout the city this first year, but will cover as many as their teaching staff can handle.

It must be understood that the approximate enrollments are based on last year's enrollments for the grades in which courses are to be offered this year. On the basis of experience from 95 per cent to 97 per cent of the pupils enroll for religious education courses, hence there is the likely probability that approximately 18,662 pupils will receive religious education in these schools. Exact enrollments cannot be ascertained until October 1, 1946, after the classes have been fully organized.

110 Addresses

During the period covered by this report, your fieldman has appeared before the following groups, making addresses in which the need for Weekday Religious Education was emphasized:

31 addresses to Parent-Teachers Association meetings.

4 addresses to Business Men's Clubs.

3 addresses to City Councils of Church Women.

29 addresses to Service Clubs.

26 addresses to Ministerial Associations, and

17 messages to church groups, some of which were to Sunday morning congregations, others to groups meeting on weekdays.

In addition to these 110 contacts with interested people in more or less formal manner, your fieldman has had many private conferences with interested business men, church workers, and school men, other than superintendents of schools and clergymen.

Work Done—Results Later

It is your fieldman's conviction that many of these contacts will eventuate in

(Continued on Next Page)

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

On Monday, September 16th, Dr. Martin addressed the Methodist ministers of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the work of The National Reform Association, particularly its work against liquor advertising, on behalf of Sabbath Observance and of the Bible and religion in our public schools. There was an attendance of about 75. His message was well received and requests for speaking engagements followed.

* * *

The National Reform Association is concurring in the Call of the Lord's Day Alliance of Pennsylvania on the pastors of the state to preach on Sabbath Observance on the last Sabbath of October, the 27th. On September 21st a letter signed by Dr. W. W. McKinney, Vice President of the Association, was sent out from the Association's headquarters to 3,000 pastors of the state, supporting the Lord's Day Alliance Call. The reasons given in urging all the pastors of the state to preach on this subject will be found in an article in this issue of *The Chrictian Statesman* entitled, "Calling on All Pennsylvania Pastors to Preach on the Lord's Day Observance on October 27th." This article in leaflet form was enclosed in these letters.

* * *

The Beaver County Branch of The National Reform Association sent four leaflets, 10,000 copies of each, (140,000 pages) to the 150 churches and Sabbath Schools of Beaver County on the liquor issue. This was occasioned by the application of the American Legion of Beaver Falls for a liquor license at its headquarters, which is only 180 feet distance from the senior high school of the city. This same Branch is sending out 1,500 letters with appropriate enclosures to the public school teachers, the superintendents and principals of schools and school directors of the county urging that the law of the state which requires that instruction shall be given to all pupils in all departments of the public schols on the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics upon the human system shall be fully complied with.

* * *

Dr. Martin recently spent several weeks in the east and in Canada in the interests of The National Reform cause. He spent several days in Washington, D. C., New York and Boston to obtain up-to-date information on liquor advertising, crime, juvenile delinquency, and the Bible and religious education in our public schools. He gave three messages on National Reform in the Boston area, two in Vermont, and five in Canada. His vacation was spent at Almonte, Ontario.

* * *

On September 16th, Rev. E. M. Hertzler, the Association's Director of Religious Education in the Public Schools, met with the Administrative Committee of the Association's Board of Directors to go over with them the work of the past year and plan the work for the coming year. Mr. Hertzler's work for the past year, a report of which is contained in this issue of *The Christian Statesman,* was highly commended by the committee. It shows that as a result of his half-time service to the Association this past year (one-half his time is given to the congregation in Marion, O., of which he is pastor), nearly 19,000 boys and girls in the public schools of 14 cities and 6 counties are receiving each week one period's instruction in the Bible in the public schools under qualified teachers who give full-time service to this work. Add to this the 11,200 receiving Bible instruction in the schools as a result of his work the previous year who are receiving this instruction this year and we have a total of about 30,000 now receiving this instruction as a result of his work.

Until September 1st of this year Mr. Hertzler had to be home each Sabbath Day to preach to his congregation. But from this date onwards Mr. Hertzler's congregation and church have arranged to have another supply the pulpit on all but two Sabbaths of each month and thus release Mr. Hertzler so he can accept invitations (he has many) to speak on the subject of Religious Education in our Public Schols in pulpits on the Lord's Day in Ohio, Indiana, or wherever his work takes him. As a result of this arrangement Mr. Hertzler will be able to give more time to this Bible in the schools work than heretofore, and to carry the work farther afield from his home than before. More publicity will be given to his work than has been given heretofore. New literature setting forth the Association's program in this field and Mr. Hertzler's work will be published and distributed. Other literature on various phases of this subject is in process of preparation and will soon be published for wide distribution.

* * *

100 copies of "The Christian World Order" issue of *The Christian Statesman* were sent to Annie Tait Jenkins, of Atlanta, Ga., Director, Christian Relations, Committee on Woman's Work, Presbyterian Church in the U. S., in response to the following letter:

Dear Dr. Martin:

"Again we are coming to request copies of a certain issue of *The Christian Statesman,* which we would like to make use of in the Woman's Auxiliary Training School, Montreat, N. C., July 25-31. I refer to the March, 1946, issue which is a Christian World Order issue.

"A new course is to be taught in our school this summer—Christian Citizenship. We believe that this issue would be a good one to put into the hands of each member of that class. Kindly let us know if you can supply us with 100 copies, and at what cost?"

* * *

Dr. Martin will represent the National Reform Association at the quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania Federated Legislative Committee, held in Harrisburg, October 1st.

BIBLE STUDY COURSES

(Continued from Preceding Page)

the organization of Weekday Religious Education programs a year or two in the future, even though no definite result was evident during the period of this report.

Expanded Programs

Your fieldman was also at least partly influential in getting several cities to expand their programs of Weekday Religious Education. Bellaire, Ohio has expanded its program, started last year, to include the neighboring community of Shadyside. Youngstown Ohio has added another teacher and is this year expanding its program to include the Junior High School grades. New Philadelphia, Ohio, which for the past three years had taught religious classes in the third and fourth grades, this year added an additional teacher and will offer classes in the fifth and sixth grades. The Fostoria, Ohio program, which was listed last year as starting a program of Weekday Religious Education, had the misfortune of getting off to a bad start resulting in discontinuing the religious education classes in December, 1945. Your fieldman has been able to secure an efficient teacher for Fostoria this year, and to get the program to start again with new enthusiasm.

WHEN CHILDREN LISTEN

(Continued from Page 3)

I attend to my work better when I used to sit and day dream. At play I try to be a good sport. I have found that listening to God has made a big change in me."

Billy wrote, "I listen to God and I find it helps me very much. When I didn't listen I got into trouble. When I was in the fourth grade I told my classmates that I hated school. But when God told me to like school, I tried and now I don't want to miss a day of school."

Some two months after this experiment began, a report was made to the principal. She said she had noticed an improvement in the children's appearance and conduct in the school and on the playground and had wondered what was responsible for this change. She said she would never recognize them as the same class that had entered my room in the fall. When she read the account of what we had been doing in our room, she said, "That is the best character training I have ever known, I wish every child in Collicot School could have it."

An entire year later, when these pupils were completing the sixth grade work, the principal told me that she could see the influence of this training, that these children were much more responsible and dependable than they had been before we began our listening.

The principal meanwhile had asked me to incorporate in my half-year work report to the superintendent an account of the project. When the superintendent read the short report, he asked for a longer account with more details. He gave his hearty approval and has been most sympathetic. He said, "This kind of training will produce strong character and help to build a better America. I fully believe that it has a high carry-over value in bringing about wholesome attitudes toward the school, the home, and the community."

And what of the teacher in this experiment? For several years I had been losing my earlier zest for teaching. It was becoming more and more a matter of routine. Many days I even dreaded to face my classes. I had so little to give them. They were not being educated and I was not a real teacher. Then came this new experience and I found that not only the class but the teacher needed changing.

God had several suggestions to make to me. I took them. Now my whole attitude is different. I am convinced that teaching is a most challenging opportunity. Each day is an adventure. I am finding, as the children did, that there is a power outside myself which gives me a plan for living beyond the limits of my own ambitions and desires, and also gives me the strength, the wisdom, and the grace to live that plan.

This America of ours desperately needs to find the answer to its many pressing problems, such as broken homes, faulty family relations, wrong attitudes between teacher and pupils, maladjustments, juvenile delinquency, the lack of character development, and the general breakdown in moral standards. There is no question in my mind but that listening is the answer. This will enable us to recapture a loyalty to our spiritual heritage, and to return to the God of our fathers. We as teachers can be numbered among the ordinary men and women of many nations, empowered by a new force, a new passion, a new wisdom, who will provide the leadership to remake the world.—By permission of Journal of the National Education Association.

A SYLLABUS OF BIBLE READING IN THE SCHOOLS

Under the above title an attractive booklet of 28 pages containing 425 selected passages from the Bible for daily reading in the public schools is recently off the press. These passages are selected from both the Old and New Testaments and are suitable for children and youth of all ages in our public schools. Each passage is listed under an appropriate title, designed not only to give an idea of the content of the passage, but as well to awaken an interest in reading, or hearing it read.

This Syllabus was compiled by the Laymen's Club of Detroit, Mich., "a noon-day fellowship of Christian men."

It meets a real need and, we believe, meets it well. There are 12 states in the United States which require the reading of a portion of the Bible daily in their public schools. Sometimes this required exercise is gone through carelessly. To comply with the law the teacher may open the Bible at random and read passages not suited to the age or needs of the pupils. To provide teachers with a selection of passages carefully prepared to meet the needs of the pupils of the various ages in the schools should add greatly to the interest and value of this exercise.

We commend this booklet to superintendents and teachers in our schools, to school boards and others interested in building the character of American youth in our public schools. For further information regarding it, and to secure copies, address the Laymen's Club of Detroit, 404 Park Avenue Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCES ON MAKING RESOURCES OF RELIGION AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN YOUTH

In recent years there has been an increasing interest in the moral and spiritual training of American youth not only among religious and educational leaders of our nation, but also on the part of our government. Beginning in 1909 at intervals of 10 years, conferences on Children in a Democracy called by the President of the United States, have been held in the White House. The first conference called by Theodore Roosevelt resulted in the Children's Bureau which has done much for dependent children. In 1919 President Wilson called another conference which dealt with child labor and handicapped children. In 1929 President Hoover convened another which had to do with child health and protection. This conference gave us the famous Children's Charter the first section of which is, "For every child spiritual and moral training to help him stand firm under the pressure of life."

In 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the fourth conference. For the first time in the history of these White House conferences this conference included the subject of religion which was given a place on an eqqual basis with a number of other subjects.

In giving his commission to this conference President Roosevelt, in enumerating the needs of the children with which the conference was directed to deal, said:

"We are concerned about the children who are outside the reach of religious influences, and are denied help in attaining faith in an ordered universe and in the Fatherhood of God."

No subject on the agenda of the conference was given more careful and concerned attention that that on religion and children in a democracy. The conference expressed its conviction as to the importance of dealing with this problem in the following language:

"Practical steps should be taken to make available to children and youth through education the resources of religion as an important factor in the democratic way of life and in the development of personal and social integrity. To this end the conference recommends that a critical and comprehensive study be made of the various experiences both of the churches and of the schools in dealing with the problem of religion in relation to public education."

As to the results of this study, the recommendations of the committee, and as to how to reach the multitudes of American children outside the reaches of religion with "the resources of religion" we have no knowledge.

Calling All Pennsylvania Pastors to Preach on Observance of The Lord's Day on October 27, 1946

This Call, With a Covering Letter, Sent to 3,000 Pennsylvania Pastors

The Sabbath Day is not the River. It is only the Channel of the River. But there cannot be a River without a Channel. Neither can there be spiritual life, true liberty, stable democracy, a high standard of morals, nor a Christian civilization, without the Lord's Day. God has ordained it as an essential means to the attainment of these great ends.

The Clogged Channel

This Channel of the River, once open and free of obstructions in America, has, of late, become so clogged up with secular business, secular and commercial recreations and amusements, that the flow of the life-giving water has been greatly hindered. As a result the Church has been handicapped in her efforts in ministering to the spiritual needs of the people, and our country is suffering from an increasing secularization of her life, a breakdown in her moral standards and a menacing increase in crime and juvenile delinquency.

The Lord's Day Assaulted

Today, the Christian Sabbath is more viciously attacked than any other institution of our American life. Anti-Christian forces and cold-blooded commercial interests have been assiduously at work to change the entire character of the day—to turn our Holy Day, devoted to rest, worship, religious instruction, contemplation of the spiritual and distinctively Christian service, into a holiday, devoted to the pursuit of secular pleasures and money-making.

What have we as Christian leaders been doing, what has the Church been doing to meet this attack? Let Roger W. Babson, outstanding religious and business leader answer:

"I grow sick at heart when I realize how we have allowed Sunday to be stolen from us, and profaned and outraged by a lot of piratical money changers who would make the money changers in Jesus' story look like a crowd of public benefactors."

"We have allowed it." How? By our preoccupation with other things, by our failure to challenge the enemy, and by **our inadequate teaching regarding the sacred character and proper use of the Sabbath Day**, until, today, even many of our church members are numbered among the desecrators of the day.

The Lord's Day Must be Recovered

This robbery of the Sabbath Day must cease—this profanation of the Lord's Day must end. The Channel of the River must be cleared of obstructions. The attacks of godless commercial interests must be met. Our civil Sunday laws, which protect the people in their God-given right to rest, and if they choose, to worship on the Lord's Day (for long maintained in Pennsylvania, but of late so seriously broken down) must be recovered and maintained. Above all, our broken ideals and standards of Sabbath-keeping and a new appreciation of the values of the day, must be rebuilt in the minds and hearts of the people. The Sabbath Day must be recovered that once more the life-giving water of the River may cleanse, uplift, and enrich the life of our country.

God has committed the custody of the Lord's Day chiefly to His Church. The responsibility for its defense and maintenance rests in large measure upon the Church. If she does not rise up in its defense, who will? And among churchmen, the greatest responsibility lies upon her ministers.

Program

The chief task is educational. For more than half a century the Lord's Day has had a very minor place in the educational program of the Church. An examination of the International Sabbath School Lessons for the past 60 years reveals the fact that the Sabbath Day has been the subject of the lesson on an average only about once in three years. In most pulpits the Sabbath Day is rarely discussed. This is the basic reason for the recent breakdown in Lord's Day observance. To reclaim the Christian Sabbath for its proper uses, the Church must give the day a place of major importance in her educational program.

This, we have no doubt, lies back of the recent call of **The Lord's Day Alliance of Pennsylvania upon the pastors of the State to preach on Observance of the Lord's Day, as far as possible on the same day, October 27th, 1946.**

The National Reform Association joins heartily with the Alliance in this call, and expresses the hope that it will meet with a favorable response from the pastors throughout the State. The advantages of such a cooperative, simultaneous program throughout the State are manifest.

Beaver County Program

Such a program was carried out recently in Beaver County, where The National Reform Association has a County Branch. This Branch requested all the pastors of the County to preach on Observance of the Lord's Day on September 23rd, 1945. The response was most gratifying. On this date 107 sermons on this subject were delivered from the pulpits of the County. In addition a full page advertisement was inserted in two daily newspapers of the County giving the names of the pastors discussing this subject, their topics, and their churches, and a 400-word message to the people of the County calling for a better observance of the Christian Sabbath. Half page advertisements were inserted in three other county papers. Thus 30,000 of the 40,000 homes of the County were reached. An impact was made upon the entire County. The program received wide publicity in the religious press, and the Association has had many calls for detailed information concerning it. We suggest that a similar program could be carried out in many counties, cities and communities of the State.

A Further Program

While a message on Observance of the Lord's Day from all the pulpits of Pennsylvania will be a great forward step toward Sabbath Day recovery, we do not think this, though repeated each year, will be sufficient to meet the present situation. This should be supplemented by the study of this subject in the Bible schools, the young peoples societies and other organizations of our Churches. We believe this to be essential and trust that the messages of the pastors on October 27th will awaken an interest that will result in the study of this subject by the people of their congregations.

Literature on this Subject

For an educational program on this subject suitable literature is important. There has been a great dearth of literature of this character—up-to-date literature which deals with this subject in the light of the present day Lord's Day situation. To help meet this need The National Reform Association has provided two books, "THE DAY," and "SIX STUDIES ON THE DAY."*

Further information will be furnished on request.

***These books can be obtained from The National Reform Association, 209 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh 22, Pa. "THE DAY", $1.00; "SIX STUDIES ON THE DAY", 25 cents.**